

EVERETT MOUNTAINEERS REPAIR HISTORIC THREE FINGERS LOOKOUT

By Carol Pinneo

This article was to have appeared in the August issue, but was inadvertently omitted. The editors regret the error.

The packers went in by way of Meadow Mountain Trail on Wednesday, July 31st with 10 mules (3 riding mule mules and 7 for supply carrying). The trail was treacherous and one mule fell over the side when the trail gave way but was not injured. Only one piece of plywood broke in the fall.

Jim Liming, one of the people spearheading this project, walked in with the packers and assisted. The packers did approximately 18 miles in one day. They had to load and unload in a muddy section of the trail but they all did a SUPER job. The packers were:

WAYNE LEDFORD, Glacier Peak Pack Service of Darrington; GARY BROWN of Darrington, and KEITH GRAVES of Arlington.

The August 2-3 work party had 13 people on Saturday and 10 on Sunday. The participants were:

Mike Beeman	Carol Pinneo
Connie Bennett	Jason Smith
Jack Bennett	Ron Smith
Dianne Duffy	Jerry Thompson
Steve Jennings	Tom Wiley
Bob Laird	John Witter
Bob McCoy	

Everyone worked extremely hard and more was accomplished than we dreamed possible. Jerry Thompson

had scouted the trail on July 31 and had brought in extra pack frames and supplies on Friday, August 1. Terry T. and Bob Laird stayed over until Monday. At Monday's end ALL supplies were within approximately 3/4 mile of the lookout or actually inside the lookout.

Items carried included: cedar shingles, 2x6's, 2x4's, assorted other lumber, plywood pieces, paint, caulk, jacks, nails, hardware, food, etc.

The August 9 and 10 work party was less well-received and consisted of Jim Rathbun and myself. With the help of 2 parties of anonymous climbers/backpackers who came up to see the lookout and volunteered to lend a hand, all the supplies are now at the lookout with the exception of 4 plywood pieces which are 1/4 mile away.

A special thanks to Stan Nurmi who scouted the trail from Saddle Lake to the Lookout, and carried up the personal tools for the Tuckers; who will live in the lookout and do the construction. The Tuckers will arrive in Seattle from Montana about August 12 and will commence actual repairs shortly thereafter. They are allowing one month for the work.

The historical research required by The Mountaineers' application is taking longer than originally anticipated by the Forest Service. Accordingly, they are allowing work to proceed even though the formal permit papers have not yet been drawn up, nor signed by The Mountaineers.

Slightly over one thousand dollars was raised by donation for this project and less than one hundred dollars remains. Donations may be made to: Three Fingers Repair Fund, c/o Jim Liming, Rainier Bank, Box 3966, Seattle WA 98124, and will be used for additional repairs as needed.